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## **METHOD OF TEST DETERMINING THE HEAT STABILITY OF BACKER ROD**

### **SCOPE**

This test method is intended for determining the heat stability of foam backer rod used for hot-pour joint sealers. The backer rod is dipped into a beaker of hot oil and checked for any signs of shrinking or disintegration.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **A. Apparatus**

1. An electric hot plate
2. 600 mL beaker
3. High temperature oil (Regal Oil R&O 46 from MacMillan Oil Co. in Des Moines, Iowa)
4. Thermometer capable of reading to 204°C (400°F)
5. Tongs

#### **B. Test Procedure**

1. Fill a 600 mL beaker about two-thirds full of high temperature oil.
2. Place the beaker and the oil on the hot plate and heat to 204°C (400°F),  $\pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ , ( $\pm 3^\circ\text{F}$ ).
3. Cut a 100 mm (4 in.) section of backer rod, and with a pair of tongs submerge 50 mm (2 in.) of the backer rod in the oil for 10 seconds. Watch for bubbling and a reduction of diameter.

#### **C. Reporting**

1. A reduction of diameter of more than 2 mm (1/16 in.) will constitute a failure. Make measurements to the nearest 2 mm (1/16 in.).
2. Report backer rod as passing or failing.